

MAR 01 2006

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FACSIMILE COVER LETTER

To: Commissioner for Patents
Examiner Joon H. Hwang

Firm: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Art Unit 2166

Facsimile: (571) 273-8300

From: Thomas F. Presson

Date: March 1, 2006

Re: FLH Ref No.: 450100-02278
Serial No: 09/492,044

Number of Pages: 11
(including cover page)

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00345749

PATENT
450100-02278IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Gentaro Okayasu, et al.
 Serial No. : 09/492,044
 Filed : January 26, 2000
 For : FREE STORAGE SPACE MANAGEMENT APPARATUS AND METHOD
 Examiner : Joon H. Hwang
 Art Unit : 2166

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745 Fifth Avenue
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 Tel: 212-588-0800

Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

- ☒ No additional fee is required.
☐ The fee has been calculated as shown below.
☐ This is an application of a small entity under 37 CFR 1.9(t), and the amounts shown in parentheses apply.

Claims as Amended

(1)	(2) Claims remaining after amendment	(3)	(4) Highest number previously paid for	(5) Present extra	(6) Rate	(7) Additional Fee
Total claims	8	Minus	** =20	* 0 x	\$50 (25)	= \$ 0
Independent claims	2	Minus	*** =3	* 0 x	\$200 (100)	= \$ 0
Total additional fee for this amendment						\$ 0

* If the entry in Column 2 is less than the entry in Column 4, write "0" in Column 5.

** If the highest number of total claims previously paid for is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

*** If the highest number of independent claims previously paid for is less than 3, write "3" in this space.

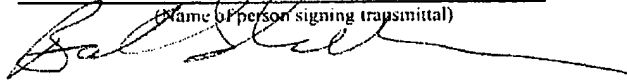
- ☐ This application contains a multiple dependent claim. The required fee of \$280(140) has been previously paid ☐, or is paid herewith ☐.
- ☐ This response is being filed within the ____ month following the expiration of the term originally set therefor. This is a petition to request a ____ month extension of time. A check covering the cost of the petition is enclosed.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$____ is attached, which covers the cost of ☐ additional claims ☐ petition for extension of time.
- ☐ Charge \$____ to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.
- ☒ Please charge any additional fees incurred by reason of this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to (571) 273-8300 on March 1, 2006.

Barnet Shindelman

(Name of person signing transmittal)



Signature

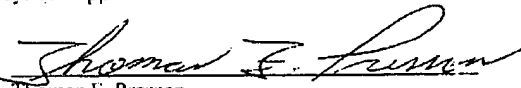
March 1, 2006

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
 Attorneys for Applicants

By:


 Thomas F. Presson
 Reg. No. 41,442
 Tel: 212-588-0800

00345748

U.S. Appl. No. 09/492,044
Reply to Office Action dated December 1, 2005

PATENT
450100-02278

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Gentaro Okayasu, et al.
Serial No. : 09/492,044
For : FREE STORAGE SPACE MANAGEMENT APPARATUS
AND METHOD
Filed : January 26, 2000
Examiner : Hwang, Joon H.
Art Unit : 2166
Confirmation No. : 9377

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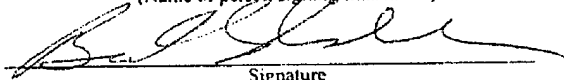
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Barnet Shindlman

(Name of person signing transmittal)



Signature

March 1, 2006

Date of Signature

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.121

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on December 1, 2005, having a three-month
statutory period for response set to expire on March 1, 2006, please amend the above-identified
application as follows.

U.S. Appln. No. 09/492,044
Reply to Office Action dated December 1, 2005

PATENT
450100-02278

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins
on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.